

**Analysis Of The Office Action**

Applicant submits that claims 4 and 5 are patentable over Rousseau and Hirai.

Claims 4 and 5 define the structure of a tri-plate stripline filter. On the other hand, Rousseau relates to a two layer stripline filter structure. It is well known that two layer stripline filter structures have different characteristics than tri-plate stripline filter structures. Therefore, Applicant submits that it would not have been obvious to combine the features of Rousseau and Hirai to arrive at the claimed invention.

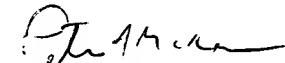
Additionally, Hirai fails to disclose the claimed arrangement with respect to the via holes. The via hole of Hirai is used as an electrode, which is different from the claimed via hole. More particularly, the via hole for the claimed invention connects a stripline and a capacitor, and thereby provides a filter structure for use in the several GHz range (e.g., 2.4 GHz, 5GHz, etc.). In addition, the filter structure of the present invention is a composite stripline filter structure arranged to use a transmission line and an external capacitor. The external capacitor may be attached after the stripline pattern is manufactured, thus enabling mass production.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
USSN 09/825,930  
Page 3

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Peter A. McKenna

Registration No. 38,551

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: January 7, 2003